(c) whether there has been a strong criticism in academic cadres over the changes made in panel of experts and they have termed the reasons as ideological; and

(d) if so, the reaction of Government thereto?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (DR. MURLI MANOHAR JOSHI): (a) and (b) The question regarding changes in the panel of Experts does not arise as there is no such permanent panel of Experts in the Naitonal Council of Educational Research & Training (NCERT) for advising as well as developing and reviewing materials.

(c) and (d) NCERT is aware of such baseless criticism. There is no such permanent panel of Experts in the Council, whenever the need arises, and depending upon requirements, eminent Professors/Scholars/educational experts are approached, who then collectively or individually advise and assist the Council in developing and reviewing materials. There is no ideological base for this selection.

Death of students in trekking camp in M.P.

695. SHRI BRATIN SENGUPTA: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether four students died and many other suffered serious illnesses during a trekking camp held by Kendriya Vidyalaya Sangathan at Pachmarhi (MP) in the first half of June, 2001;

(b) if so, the detials of those students and the causes of the mishap;

(c) whether any probe body has been constituted;

(d) if so, its composition and terms of reference;

(e) whether anybody has been held *prima facie* responsible for it and placed under suspension; and

(f) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (DR. MURLI MANOHAR JOSHI): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. Four students of KVs under Bhopal region died and 23 students and 3 teachers suffered Cerebral Malaria due to Mosquito bite.

(c) and (d) A team of two oficers from KVS (HQ) conducted the fact finding inquiry into the incident. In addition, the Collector, Hoshangabad ordered an inquiry by SDM, Piparia to probe into the cincumstances that caused the massive Malaria attack in Pachmarhi.

(e) No, Sir.

(f) Does not arise.

Common cadre of non-teaching employees of Kendriya Vidyalaya Sangathan

696. SHRI BRATIN SENGUPTA: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether one more Committee has, of late, been set up to advise Government/Kendriya Vidyalaya Sangathan on the issue of having a common cadre of non-teaching emplbyees of Kendriya Vidyalaya Sangathan;

(b) if so, its composition and terms of reference;

(c) the details of recommendations made by each of the earlier Committees;

(d) whether the latest Committee has submitted its recommendations; and

(e) if so, the details thereof and if not, by when it is likely to do so?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (DR. MURLI MANOHAR JOSHI): (a) No., Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) The Committee set up in 1993 had recommended the merger of non-teaching posts of Hqrs., ROs and KVs.

(d) and (e) Does not arise.

Review of legislations by NCW

697. SHRI SURESH PACHOURI: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Naitonal Commission for Women has reviewed certain legislations having a bearing on women;

(b) if so, the details thereof;